

growing national debt by saying that the bill does not actually appropriate any money for these programs.

In a technical sense, they are correct. I suspect that these same proponents will issue statements celebrating its passage, which will disappoint any caregiver of a disabled veteran expecting the promised assistance soon.

No caregiver will be helped unless the appropriations committee allocates the funding for this new program authorized in this bill.

Until then, this bill is an empty promise to veterans and benefits no one except perhaps the career politicians who will claim credit for doing something to help veterans without really having to make any difficult choices.

We owe an enormous sacrifice to our veterans who fought and died in our defense. This debt, which was incurred on a battlefield far from home, should be borne by this generation so that we ensure that the future they fought to secure for our children and grandchildren is not threatened by our own fiscal irresponsibility and shortsightedness.

Congress has once again failed taxpayers, veterans, and their families today.

Mr. DORGAN. I ask unanimous consent the Senate concur in the House amendment; that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate, and any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAMS

Mr. DORGAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 3253, introduced earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3253) to provide for additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. DORGAN. I ask unanimous consent the bill be read three times and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements be printed in the RECORD as if read.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 3253) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 3253

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. ADDITIONAL TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATION OF PROGRAMS UNDER THE SMALL BUSINESS ACT AND THE SMALL BUSINESS INVESTMENT ACT OF 1958.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1 of the Act entitled “An Act to extend temporarily certain authorities of the Small Business Administration”, approved October 10, 2006 (Public Law 109-316; 120 Stat. 1742), as most recently amended by section 1 of Public Law 111-136 (124 Stat. 6), is amended by striking “April 30, 2010” each place it appears and inserting “July 31, 2010”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect on April 29, 2010.

NATIONAL ADOPT A LIBRARY DAY

Mr. DORGAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 496, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. Res. 496) designating April 23, 2010, as “National Adopt A Library Day.”

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. DORGAN. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate, and any statements be printed in the RECORD as if read.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 496) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 496

Whereas libraries are an essential part of the communities and the national system of education in the United States;

Whereas the people of the United States benefit significantly from libraries that serve as an open place for people of all ages and backgrounds to make use of books and other resources that offer pathways to learning, self-discovery, and the pursuit of knowledge;

Whereas the libraries of the United States depend on the generous donations and support of individuals and groups to ensure that people who are unable to purchase books still have access to a wide variety of resources;

Whereas certain nonprofit organizations facilitate the donation of books to schools and libraries across the United States—

(1) to extend the joys of reading to millions of people of the United States; and

(2) to prevent used books from being thrown away;

Whereas, as of the date of agreement to this resolution, the libraries of the United States have provided valuable resources to individuals affected by the economic crisis by encouraging continued education and job training; and

Whereas several States that recognize the importance of libraries and reading have adopted resolutions commemorating April 23 as “Adopt A Library Day”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 23, 2010, as “National Adopt A Library Day”;

(2) honors the organizations that facilitate donations to schools and libraries;

(3) urges all people of the United States who own unused books to donate the unused books to local libraries;

(4) strongly supports children and families who take advantage of the resources provided by schools and libraries; and

(5) encourages the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

NATIONAL SHAKEN BABY SYNDROME AWARENESS WEEK

Mr. DORGAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 497, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 497) designating the third week of April, 2010 as “National Shaken Baby Syndrome Awareness Week.”

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. DORGAN. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 497) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 497

Whereas the month of April has been designated “National Child Abuse Prevention Month” as an annual tradition initiated in 1979 by President Jimmy Carter;

Whereas the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System reports that 772,000 children were victims of abuse and neglect in the United States in 2008, causing unspeakable pain and suffering for our most vulnerable citizens;

Whereas approximately 95,000 of those children were younger than 1 year old;

Whereas more than 4 children die each day in the United States as a result of abuse or neglect;

Whereas children younger than 1 year old accounted for over 40 percent of all child abuse and neglect fatalities in 2008, and children younger than 4 years old accounted for nearly 80 percent of all child abuse and neglect fatalities in 2008;

Whereas abusive head trauma, including the trauma known as Shaken Baby Syndrome, is recognized as the leading cause of death among physically abused children;

Whereas Shaken Baby Syndrome can result in loss of vision, brain damage, paralysis, seizures, or death;

Whereas medical professionals believe that thousands of additional cases of Shaken Baby Syndrome and other forms of abusive head trauma are being misdiagnosed or left undetected;

Whereas Shaken Baby Syndrome often results in permanent and irreparable brain damage or death of the infant and may result in extraordinary costs for medical care